

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1560-01
Bill No.: HB 647
Subject: Vital Statistics; Children and Minors; Family Law
Type: Original
Date: March 2, 2015

Bill Summary: This proposal establishes procedures for an adopted person to obtain a copy of his or her original birth certificate.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
General Revenue	Up to \$11,056	Up to \$13,221	Up to \$13,174
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	Up to \$11,056	Up to \$13,221	Up to \$13,174

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Children's Trust	Up to \$15,750	Up to \$18,900	Up to \$18,900
Endowed Cemetery	Up to \$3,150	Up to \$3,780	Up to \$3,780
MO Public Health Services	Up to \$15,750	Up to \$18,900	Up to \$18,900
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds	Up to \$34,650	Up to \$41,580	Up to \$41,580

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)** state for section 193.125 that currently the Bureau of Vital Records responds to approximately 10 to 15 inquiries and requests daily regarding access to sealed adoption records. Inquiries and requests for copies of original birth certificates are expected to double from the current amount, with an increase of approximately 3,780 requests annually (15 requests X average of 21 working days per month X 12 months in a year = 3,780 requests). There is currently one Senior Office Support Assistant - Keyboarding (SOSA) working on adoptions. An additional SOSA (\$25,824 annually) would be needed to handle the additional requests

This position would assist internal and external customers through written correspondence, in person, and over the telephone primarily regarding adoptions, vital events and related matters. The staff person would travel to the State Records Center in Jefferson City to retrieve sealed envelopes. The staff would perform moderate to difficult clerical and technical functions involving a significant amount of public contact. Duties include processing documents related to births, including adoption decrees (domestic and foreign); legitimation affidavits; amending or creating new certificates as instructed by affidavit or court order; processing delayed applications; performing manual and computer searches; updating the system mainframe; and issuing certified copies as requested. Standard expense and equipment costs are included for one clerical FTE. In addition, approximately \$1,852.20 would be needed for postage (3,780 requests X \$0.49/envelope).

Per section 193.265, RSMo, the cost per birth certificate statement is \$15 to be distributed as follows: Children's Trust Fund - \$5; General Revenue (GR) - \$4; Endowed Cemetery Fund - \$1; and Missouri Public Health Services Fund (MOPHS) - \$5. The increase in annual revenue is estimated at 3,780 requests time \$15 per request, for a total of \$56,700 annually (\$47,250 for 10 months of 2016). Per section 193.265, RSMo, this revenue will be split between four funds (GR - \$12,600; Children's Trust Fund - \$15,750; Endowed Cemetery Fund - \$3,150; and MOPHS - \$15,750).

Oversight assumes, because the potential significant increase in the workload is speculative, that the DHSS could absorb one FTE. Any significant increase in the workload of the DHSS would be reflected in future budget request. In addition, since the potential increase in the workload is considered speculative, Oversight is presenting the revenues that could be received as a result of the increase in requests for birth certificates as "Up to" the amount provided by DHSS.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials from the **Department of Social Services**, the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** and the **Office of State Courts Administrator** each assume the proposal would not fiscally impact their respective agencies.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** state many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$2,500. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with the core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

Oversight assumes the SOS could absorb the costs of printing and distributing regulations related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require the printing and distribution of regulations at substantial costs, the SOS could request funding through the appropriation process.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
<u>Income</u> - DHSS (§§193.125 and 193.128)	Up to...	Up to...	Up to...
Birth certificate fees	\$12,600	\$15,120	\$15,120
<u>Cost</u> - DHSS	Up to...	Up to...	Up to...
Mailing expenses	<u>(\$1,544)</u>	<u>(\$1,899)</u>	<u>(\$1,946)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND	<u>Up to \$11,056</u>	<u>Up to \$13,221</u>	<u>Up to \$13,174</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND			
<u>Income</u> - DHSS (§§193.125 and 193.128) Birth certificate fees	Up to... <u>\$15,750</u>	Up to... <u>\$18,900</u>	Up to... <u>\$18,900</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND	<u>Up to \$15,750</u>	<u>Up to \$18,900</u>	<u>Up to \$18,900</u>
ENDOWED CEMETERY FUND			
<u>Income</u> - DHSS (§§193.125 and 193.128) Birth certificate fees	Up to... <u>\$3,150</u>	Up to... <u>\$3,780</u>	Up to... <u>\$3,780</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE ENDOWED CEMETERY FUND	<u>Up to \$3,150</u>	<u>Up to \$3,780</u>	<u>Up to \$3,780</u>
MO PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES FUND			
<u>Income</u> - DHSS (§§193.125 and 193.128) Birth certificate fees	Up to... <u>\$15,750</u>	Up to... <u>\$18,900</u>	Up to... <u>\$18,900</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE MO PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES FUND	<u>Up to \$15,750</u>	<u>Up to \$18,900</u>	<u>Up to \$18,900</u>
 <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	 FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	 FY 2017	 FY 2018
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This proposal specifies that an adopted individual, his or her attorney, or descendants, if the adopted individual is deceased, may obtain a copy of the adopted individual's original certificate of birth from the state registrar if he or she is at least 18 years of age; was born in this state; and files a written application with and provides appropriate proof of identification to the state registrar.

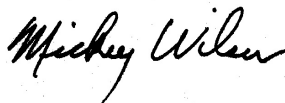
The state registrar may require a waiting period and impose a fee for issuance of the uncertified copy of the birth certificate, and the fees and waiting period imposed must be identical to the fees and waiting period generally imposed on a non-adopted individual seeking their own certificate of birth.

Upon receipt of a written application, proof of identification and fulfillment of the other specified requirements, the state registrar must issue an uncertified copy of the unaltered original certificate of birth to the applicant. The copy of the certificate of birth must have the following statement printed on it: "for genealogical purposes only - not to be used for establishing identity."

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health and Senior Services
Department of Social Services
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
Office of State Courts Administrator
Office of Secretary of State



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
March 2, 2015

Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
March 2, 2015